

Data Standards EPA's Direction

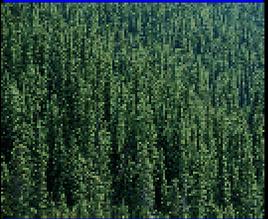


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July 24, 2002



Purpose

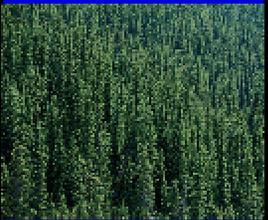
- ❖ To provide an introduction to the EPA information exchange efforts that are facilitated by data standards and open web-base registries.





Overview

- ❖ Mission
- ❖ Environmental Health Tracking Network
- ❖ National Environmental Information Exchange Network
- ❖ Data Standards
- ❖ Environmental Data Registry
- ❖ Environmental Information Management System
- ❖ Grants





The mission of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is to protect human health and to safeguard the natural environment – air, water, and land...

Ten Strategic Goals
#7 Improve Environmental Information



Environmental Health Tracking Network (EHTN)

❖ Purpose

- national health tracking system for chronic diseases such as asthma, birth defects, cancer and developmental disorders

❖ Lead agencies

- Centers for Disease Control (CDC)
- Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR)

❖ Participating Agencies

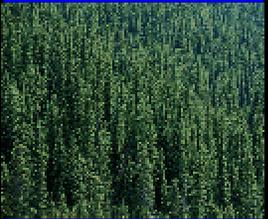
- Environmental Protection Agency
- others





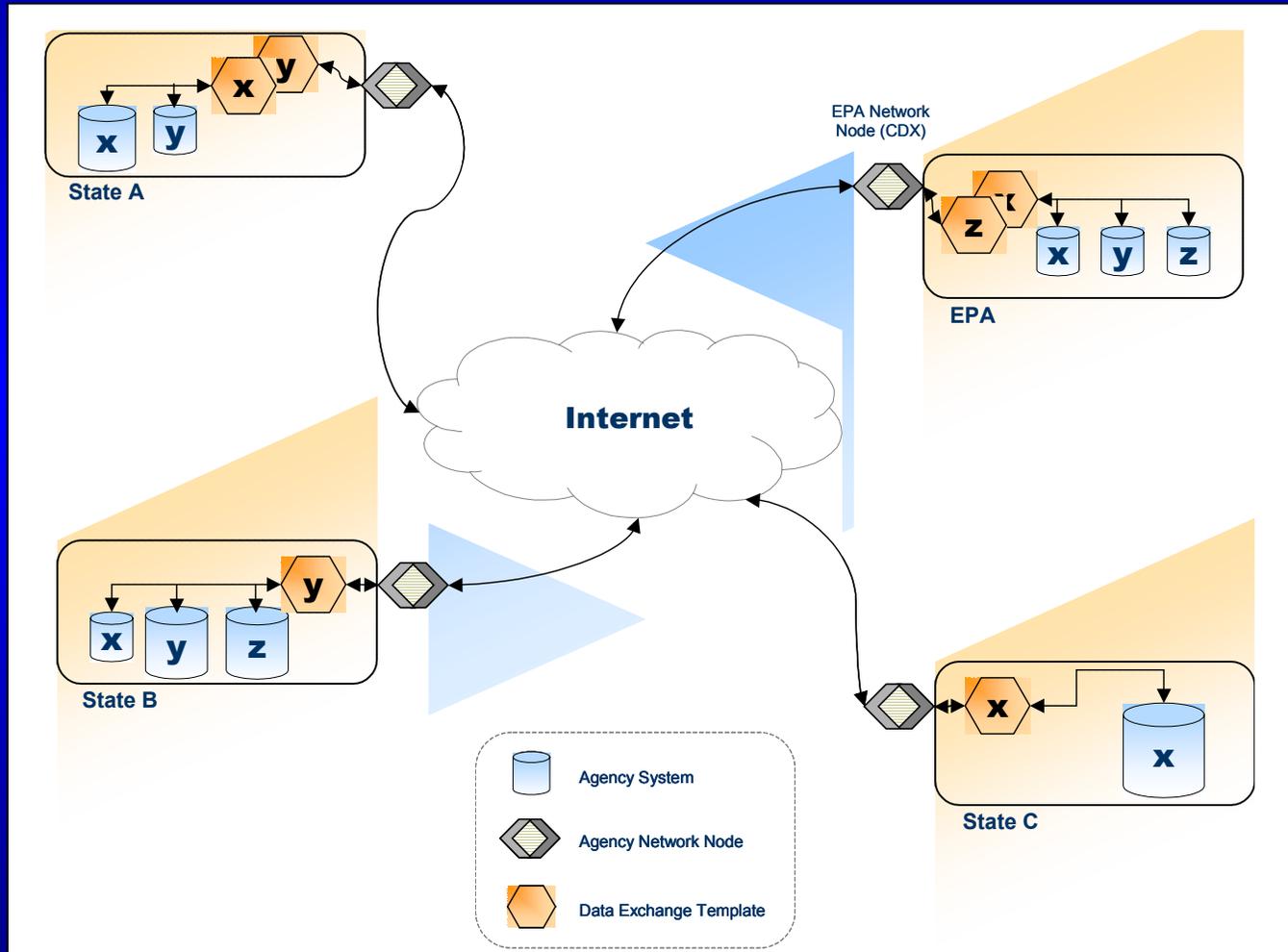
EPA & the EHTN

- ❖ HHS and EPA are formalizing a partnership with a Memorandum of Understanding
- ❖ EPA has regulatory and ambient environmental information for the network
- ❖ EPA has experience in partnering with States to build a National Network





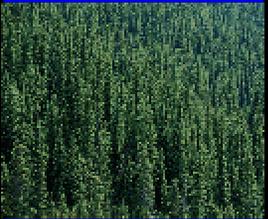
National Environmental Information Exchange Network





NEIEN Organizational Framework Components

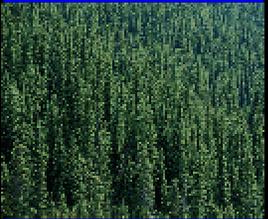
- ❖ State/EPA Information Management Workgroup
- ❖ Environmental Data Standards Council (EDSC) and other Action Teams
- ❖ Network Steering Board
- ❖ Trading Partner Agreements
- ❖ Internal Organizational Policies
- ❖ Resource Contributions





NEIEN Technical Framework Components

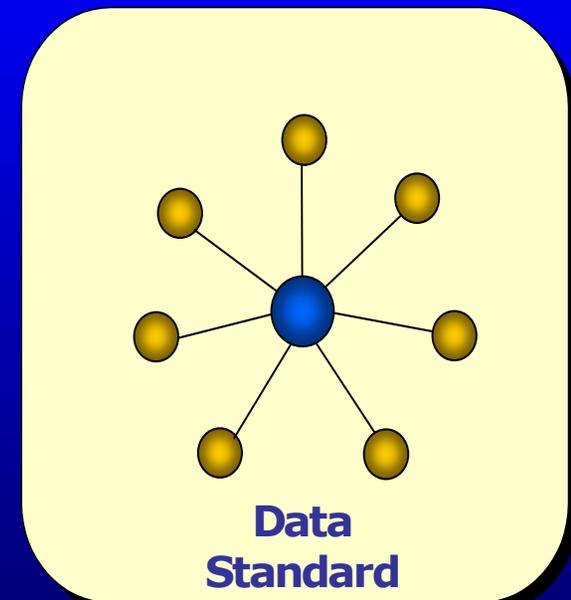
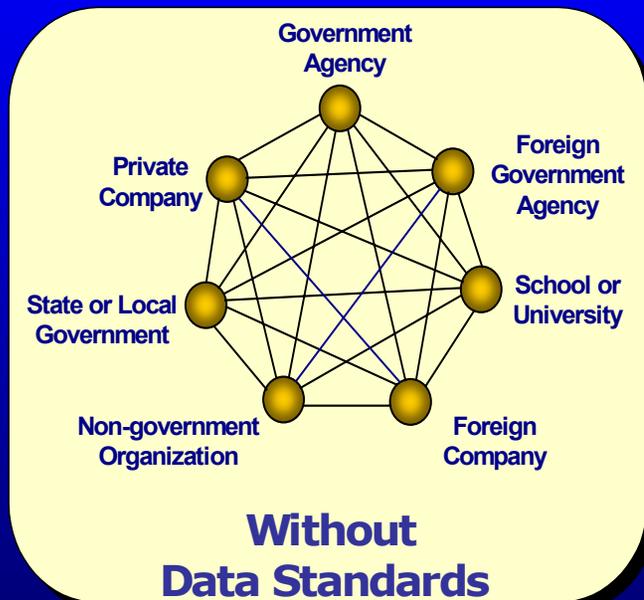
- ❖ Network security
- ❖ The end-to-end information exchange process
- ❖ Connections between the Network and existing information systems
- ❖ Network Flows
- ❖ Data Exchange Templates
- ❖ **Data standards**
- ❖ The Network Registry
- ❖ Network Nodes
- ❖ Network Technologies
- ❖ Network Pilot Projects





Why Are Standards Important?

- ❖ Support coordination of data development, use, sharing (exchange), and dissemination
- ❖ Help to provide accurate, consistent and precise (meaningful) data
- ❖ Facilitate information collection
- ❖ Provide the basis for an Enterprise Architecture





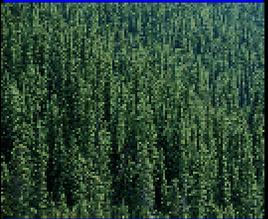
Status of EDSC Standards

❖ EDSC Final Standards

- Biological Taxonomy
- Chemical Identification
- Date
- Facility Identification
- Latitude/Longitude
- SIC/NAICS Business Classification
- Permitting
- Enforcement and Compliance

❖ Standards Under Development

- Tribal Identification
- Contact
- Water Quality Monitoring





Standards Process

- ❖ Environmental Data Standards Council establishes an Action Team
- ❖ Team composed of EPA, State, and Tribal representatives
- ❖ Team develops a standard containing a core set of elements for broadest applicability
- ❖ Standards are closely linked to other data standards
- ❖ Standards include XML tags





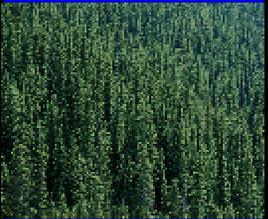
Barriers to Implementation

❖ Internal legacy data

- Vast amounts of widely divergent, sometimes overlapping, data
- Complex and fragmented systems environment
- Inconsistent data collection and documentation practices

❖ External interchange data

- Lack of standards implementation among data exchange partners





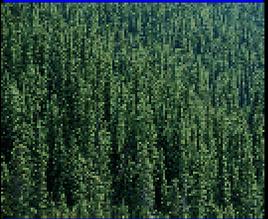
Environmental Data Registry (EDR)

What is a Data Registry?

A place to keep facts about characteristics that are necessary to clearly describe, inventory, analyze, and classify data.

What is the EDR?

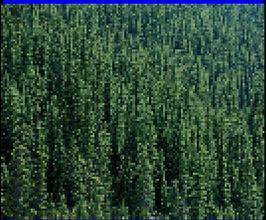
A comprehensive, authoritative source of reference information about environmental data. It provides information on the definition, origin, source, and location of environmental data. It is a set of related Web-based tools that provide information on metadata, data standards, chemicals, biological organisms, and terminology.





Environmental Information Management System (EIMS)

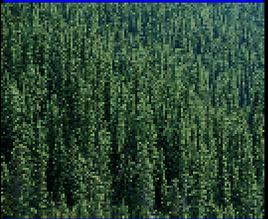
- ❖ Descriptive information (metadata)
 - data sets
 - databases
 - documents
 - models
 - multimedia
 - projects
 - spatial information





EPA Grants

- ❖ Science to Achieve Results (STAR) Program
- ❖ National Information Exchange Network Grant Program
- ❖ Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Program



We hope the CDC-EPA
collaboration is the first of
many efforts.

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